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Ministry of Rural, Agricultural, and Environmental Development  
Vice Ministry of Coca and Integrated Development

## Chulumani Municipality to Inaugurate Infrastructure Works Built with U.S. Cooperation

As a result of a joint effort by the Governments of the United States and Bolivia, the Vice Ministry of Coca and Integrated Development (VCDI) will deliver three important infrastructure works for the development of Chulumani municipality in the Yungas region.

Vice Minister Gerónimo Meneses, of the Bolivian Ministry of Rural, Agricultural, and Environmental Development, along with representatives of the U.S. Government's Agency for International Development (USAID) will visit Chulumani on January 16-18 to conduct a joint assessment of the activities carried out during 2007 through USAID's Integrated Development Program, to plan activities for 2008, and to inaugurate the new infrastructure works.

The Municipal Government of Chulumani requested support from the VCDI and USAID to complete the construction of the San Cristobal de Huancane school, which serves 740 students; to improve a sewage network for the town of Tajma, which benefits 2,700 people; and to build public restrooms at the entrance of Chulumani town. In response to this request, the VCDI and USAID provided approximately \$194,000 through their joint Integrated Development Community Fund. This initiative is part of a larger economic, social, and community development program funded by the U.S. Government that supports the Bolivian Government's National Development Plan and the National Plan for Integrated Development.

With this new infrastructure, the Huancane public school will be able to serve the students currently enrolled, as well as those who will come to study in coming years. The town of Tajma showed an outstanding organizational ability in the management of its potable water system, which was built in 1981, but had serious problems with its sewage network. Thanks to this new assistance, Tajma was able to revamp its over-50-year-old drainage and sewage system, which now meets national and international hygiene standards. The restored network has significantly improved drainage, collection, and treatment of waste.

Also, new facilities for quality restrooms were built in Chulumani's Junin district. Eleven toilets, a water tank, and a water treatment tank were installed. An additional two-story structure was built near these facilities to host stores and businesses dedicated mainly to serve the tourists that frequently visit Chulumani.